

THE NATIONAL ERA.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

[An Extract.]
PIKE GROVE, W. T., December 11, 1847.

I have, dear sir, been greatly interested in your paper, and in its steady efforts to sustain freedom, and to oppose all objects to popular influence and human abuse. Nothing contributes more to give an editor power, than to maintain the entire control of his own spirit. I have greatly desired that you, or some of your correspondents, would enter into a thorough discussion of the relations of the slaves to their masters. And I will do my best to furnish. Much, I know, has been said in patches. But it seems to me, that a thorough discussion, based on fundamental principles, would at this time do a great deal of good.

Our great ecclesiastical bodies and missionary associations are, to a great extent, the public sentiment of the nation. While these insist upon regarding slavery as a sin against God's authority, preaches from the Word of God in every tongue. When all the ministers of Christ and his disciples unite in making this proclamation, the right arm of its power is broken. Withdrawn from slavery the shield which the church now holds over it, and nothing can long protect it. The civil power may make a few strokes, but the merciless and merciless heart of slavery laid open in the light of the Gospel of Christ, will arouse the honest indignation of every virtuous mind.

Yours,

T. TENNEY.

[An Extract.]
PIQUE, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO,
February 23, 1848.

DEAR Sir: It has appeared to me, sometimes, that the Liberty operations are not conducted on a sufficiently popular system to insure success. I find no fault with its doctrinal sentiments, or measures; but may not the Liberty party, generally, be too weak? I mean, by the word "generally," leaders, and chief supporters, are men of enlarged intellect, refined education and taste, moving in corresponding circles. Their powers, influence, and wealth, are liberally and effectively consecrated to the interests of the great cause of human liberty. But the form in which the majority of the people of the country, and this is the point to be mainly considered in a political movement. Among the mass are multitudes, of elevated moral character, natural parts, and good sense, who have been recruited, under circumstances which have led them from the appreciating literary merit, but to adopt the various modes of operating more to a popular standard. Popular political movements are not effected by Byrons, Wordsworths, and Coleridges, but by O'Connel, Ellists, and Cobbe. Often, while reading the press, I have been struck with the fact, and elsewhere, I have felt that efficiency was sacrificed to literary taste. How many of those brilliant productions would tell powerfully if put into a popular dress, and circulated freely! Similes, metaphors, and figures, are not wanted; but Anti-Slavery books, &c. In this day of cheap publications, most men will scarcely look at a book ranging above the low-priced scale. They may have a desire to know more about the merits of the Liberty question, if conceivable through others, or a trifling outlet; but many do not feel inclined to go through such a costly scale, or even twenty-five cents, while to numbers such outlays are too great a sacrifice.

While I am fully satisfied that the friends of equality, &c., are designing, yet wisely working, es-

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